

Equality, Diversity, Cohesion and Integration Screening



As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration.

A **screening** process can help judge relevance and provides a record of both the **process** and **decision**. Screening should be a short, sharp exercise that determines relevance for all new and revised strategies, policies, services and functions.

Completed at the earliest opportunity it will help to determine:

- the relevance of proposals and decisions to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration.
- whether or not equality, diversity, cohesion and integration is being/has already been considered, and
- whether or not it is necessary to carry out an impact assessment.

Directorate: Adults and Health	Service area: Commissioning
Lead person: David Peel	Contact number: 0113 378 3836

1. Title: Request to award COVID-19 response funding support for the Tier 2 Hub community organisations across the 33 Wards of Leeds at a total value of £165,000 / £5,000 per Ward

Is this a:

Strategy / Policy

Service / Function

Other

If other, please specify

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening

This assessment is screening the request to approve an award of £165,000 across all 33 wards in Leeds to support the co-ordinated volunteer response to the COVID-19 outbreak. The award will be distributed to existing third sector partners who will be acting as volunteer co-ordination leads for their locality. The co-ordinated volunteer response aims to minimise risk of infection to those considered at greatest risk of severe illness due to COVID-19 and that they are kept safe. These are often people with specific considerations such as those over 70 or those with underlying conditions.

Given national guidance on self-isolation during this period it is essential to ensure those at greatest risk of ill health are kept safe and contact with them is reduced. As such volunteers will support local efforts to deliver essential services such as food deliveries to those who are instructed to remain in their homes.

The volunteer response is being co-ordinated by Voluntary Action Leeds (VAL) and consists of two tiers. Tier 1 is supported by Adults and Health to distribute volunteers across statutory services. Tier 2 is focussed on distribution at a community level and will be managed by third sector organisations in their localities. Third sector partners are operating at full capacity in response to the viral outbreak, these duties would be undertaken in addition to regular operational duties.

3. Relevance to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration

All the council's strategies/policies, services/functions affect service users, employees or the wider community – city wide or more local. These will also have a greater/lesser relevance to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration.

The following questions will help you to identify how relevant your proposals are.

When considering these questions think about age, carers, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation. Also those areas that impact on or relate to equality: tackling poverty and improving health and well-being.

Questions	Yes	No
Is there an existing or likely differential impact for the different equality characteristics?	✓ (Age)	
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns about the policy or proposal?		✓
Could the proposal affect how our services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by whom?		✓
Could the proposal affect our workforce or employment practices?		✓
Does the proposal involve or will it have an impact on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminating unlawful discrimination, victimisation and harassment • Advancing equality of opportunity • Fostering good relations 		✓

If you have answered **no** to the questions above please complete **sections 6 and 7**

If you have answered **yes** to any of the above and;

- Believe you have already considered the impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration within your proposal please go to **section 4**.
- Are not already considering the impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration within your proposal please go to **section 5**.

4. Considering the impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration

If you can demonstrate you have considered how your proposals impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration you have carried out an impact assessment.

Please provide specific details for all three areas below (use the prompts for guidance).

- **How have you considered equality, diversity, cohesion and integration?**

The volunteer service will most likely be accessed by those most at risk, which national guidance states includes those 70 and over and those with underlying conditions such as cardiovascular disease and diabetes. The service will have a positive effect for these groups and will still be accessible by all presenting with a recognised requirement for volunteer support.

- **Key findings**

This impact assessment is focussed on those who are impacted the most by national guidance to self-isolate during the COVID-19 outbreak.

The positive impact for older people particularly will be their ability to maintain social ties through outreach and to continue receiving essential supplies such as food and potentially medicines. It may also help in ensuring any potential cases of ill health are detected as soon as possible.

- **Actions**

Positive impact will be achieved through ensuring those categorised as the most at risk will continue to receive support throughout this self-isolation period.

5. If you are *not* already considering the impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration you *will need to carry out an impact assessment*.

Date to scope and plan your impact assessment:	N/A
Date to complete your impact assessment	N/A
Lead person for your impact assessment (Include name and job title)	N/A

6. Governance, ownership and approval

Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening

Name	Job title	Date
Michelle Atkinson	Project Lead, Older People's Commissioning	26/03/2020
Date screening completed		26/03/2020

7. Publishing

Though **all** key decisions are required to give due regard to equality the council **only** publishes those related to **Executive Board, Full Council, Key Delegated Decisions** or a **Significant Operational Decision**.

A copy of this equality screening should be attached as an appendix to the decision making report:

- Governance Services will publish those relating to Executive Board and Full Council.
- The appropriate directorate will publish those relating to Delegated Decisions and Significant Operational Decisions.
- A copy of all other equality screenings that are not to be published should be sent to equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk for record.

Complete the appropriate section below with the date the report and attached screening was sent:

For Executive Board or Full Council – sent to Governance Services	Date sent: n/a
For Delegated Decisions or Significant Operational Decisions – sent to appropriate Directorate	Date sent: 26/03/2020
All other decisions – sent to equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk	Date sent: n/a